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UTILITY PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of: Scott D. BLANCHARD et al.

Group Art Unit: 2131

Serial No.: 09/447,312

Examiner: M.R. Vaughn

Filed: 11/22/1999

Confirmation No.: 3661

Attorney Docket No.: IRI03844

For: PACKET ORDER DETERMINING METHOD AND APPARATUS

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Paul D. Amrozowicz

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed August 25, 2003 (Paper No. 2), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2;

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begin on page 5;

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS begin on page 10 and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing the changes; and

REMARKS begin on page 11; and

An APPENDIX including amended drawing figures is attached following page 15 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 8-21, with the following amended paragraph:

a¹

The difference between the shortest and longest delay yields the "maximum latency variability 230." The maximum latency variability 230 measures the largest difference in transmission time between two packets that can be expected to arrive out of order. For example, if the minimum latency of a network is 100 milliseconds, and the maximum latency of the network is 400 milliseconds, then the maximum latency variability of the network is 300 milliseconds. Packets transmitted less than the maximum latency variability apart in time, or less than 300 milliseconds apart, may arrive at a receiver out of order. In contrast, packets transmitted greater than 300 milliseconds apart cannot arrive out of order because they are transmitted greater than the maximum latency variability 230 apart in time. Minimum latency 210 is shown as a finite latency that is a substantial portion of maximum latency 220. In some embodiments, minimum latency 210 is very small, and it approaches zero, as is the case when a transmitter and receiver have a very direct path.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 30-36, with the following amended paragraph:

a²

Encryptor 406 encrypts packets and sends encrypted packets to forward error device 416 via node 414. Encryptor 406 receives encryption keys on node 408. Node 408 can be coupled to a key generator that is internal or external to communications device 101 (FIG. 1). In a preferred embodiment, encryptor 406 is an exclusive-or (XOR) operator that XOR's the packets with the encryption keys. In other embodiments, encryptor 406 utilizes other operators, such as public key cryptography.

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

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